

THE TALKING

MOTHER GOOSE™

Fairy Tales

The Grasshopper and the Ant



WORLDS OF WONDER®





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"I Can't Help Singin'" and "Tomorrow's Not So Very Far Away":

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The Grasshopper and the Ant

An Aesop Fable

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This Book Belongs To:



Use this symbol to match book and cassette.



nce upon a time there was a grasshopper named Gideon. Now "Gideon" was a very appropriate name for this particular grasshopper because whenever he was in a happy mood, he would laugh and sing in a very "giddy" way.

One day Gideon awoke to find it was a lovely Spring morning. He was so happy, he simply had to burst into song. And so he did.



“I Can’t Help Singin’”

Oh, I can’t help singin’ on a day like today.

It’s the kinda day I simply gotta croon!

When you wake up ‘n see

Such bea-utiful scenery,

There’s just no holdin’ back a tune!

Things are bustin’ out like crazy everywhere.

There’s a Springy kinda feelin’ in the air.

Chorus: *It’s as natural as can be*

To create a melody.

Oh, I can’t help singin’,

I can’t help singin’,

I can’t help singin’ today!



As Gideon sang, a regiment of army ants came marching along carrying grains of wheat. Gideon thought it would be perfectly wonderful if they could stop working for a while and sing along with him!

But Captain Anthony, the leader of the army ants, explained that his regiment was on a food-gathering mission and had no time for silly songs.



Now Andrew Ant, who had been struggling at the end of the ant line with his little grain of wheat, was the newest and smallest recruit in the regiment. He thought it would be a nice idea to stay and sing with Gideon.



But Captain Anthony reminded Andrew of his antly obligations—work, work, and more work.

And so, on Captain Anthony's command, the entire regiment began marching off.



Three months passed by and Gideon Grasshopper
awoke one morning to find such a beautiful Summer
day that he just naturally had to start singing.

Oh, I can't help singin' on a day like today.

It's the kinda day I simply gotta croon!

When you wake up 'n see

Such bea-utiful scenery,

There's just no holdin' back a tune!

Things are green an' growin' everywhere you go.

Nature's really givin' all of us a show.

Repeat Chorus





Soon Gideon heard the sound of army ants approaching. It was Captain Anthony and his regiment who were very busy carrying home kernels of corn.

Little Andrew once again asked Captain Anthony if it might be possible for the ants to stay and sing. But Captain Anthony again refused.

And with a "forward march," off they went back home.

Three months quickly went by and soon it was the middle of October. Gideon Grasshopper awoke one morning to find such a beautiful Autumn day, he simply had to burst into song again.

*Oh, I can't help singin' on a day like today.
It's the kinda day I simply gotta croon!
When you wake up 'n see
Such bea-utiful scenery,
There's just no holdin' back a tune!*

*As the Autumn leaves are floatin' to the ground,
There's a crispy, crunchy feelin' all around.*

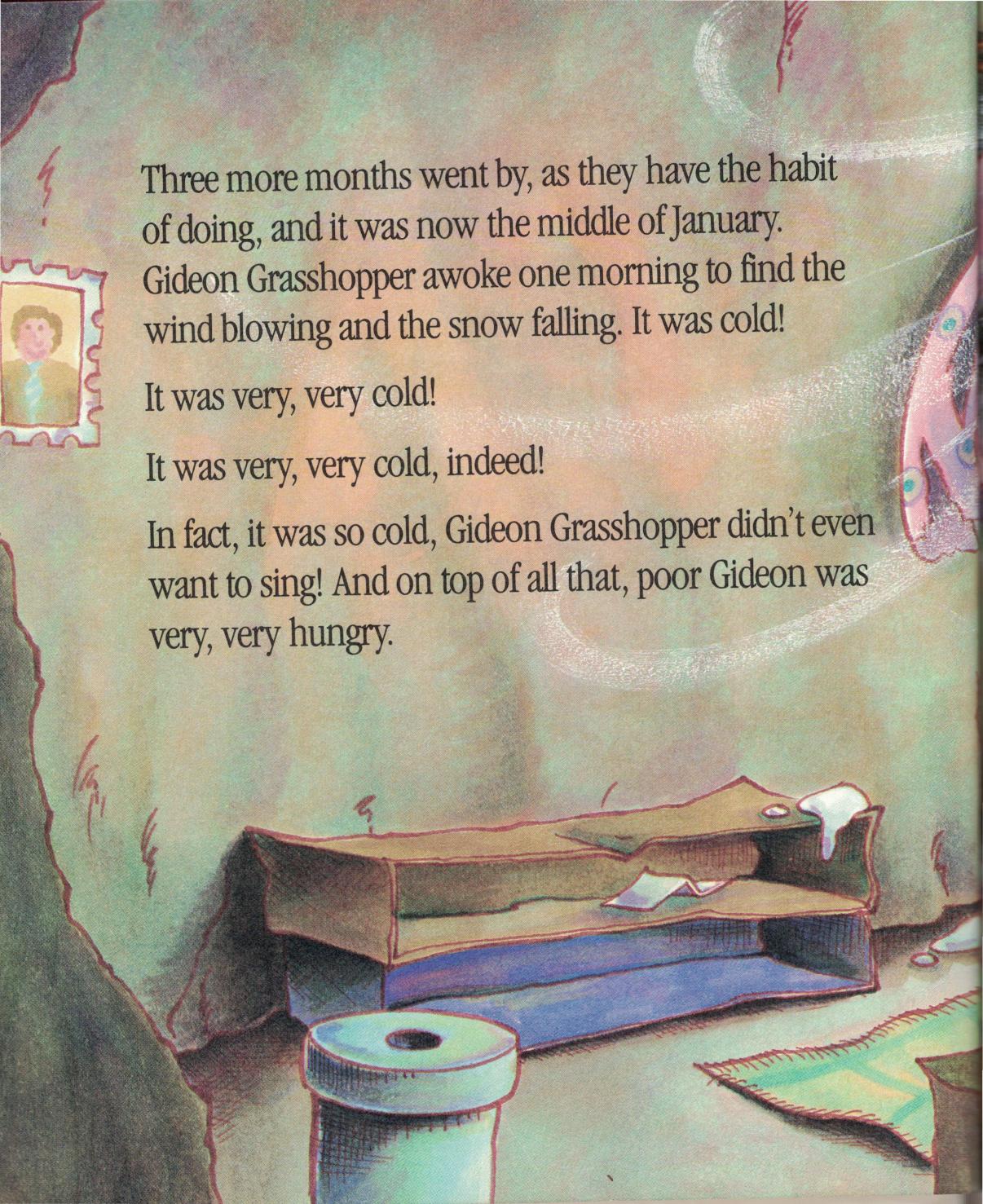
Repeat Chorus



Once more the ants came marching by, and once again little Andrew Ant asked Captain Anthony for permission to sing along with Gideon.

Gideon tried telling the Captain that the Winter was so far in the future, it wasn't worth worrying about. But he couldn't convince Captain Anthony.



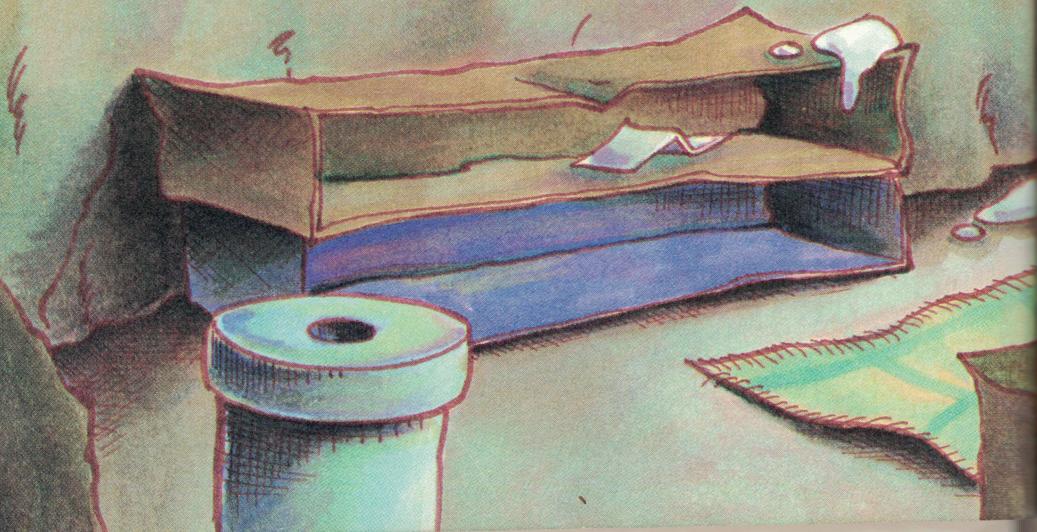


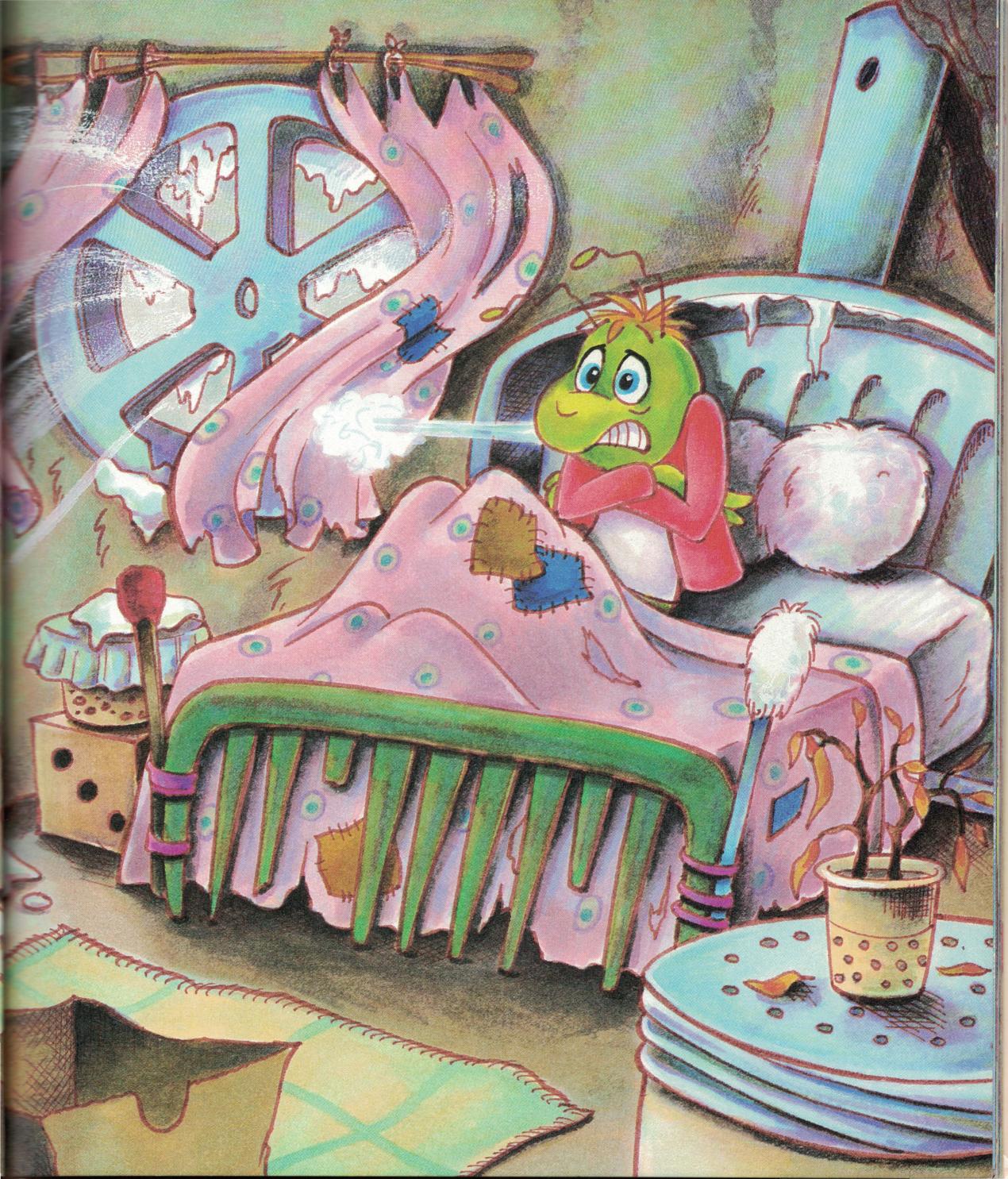
Three more months went by, as they have the habit of doing, and it was now the middle of January. Gideon Grasshopper awoke one morning to find the wind blowing and the snow falling. It was cold!

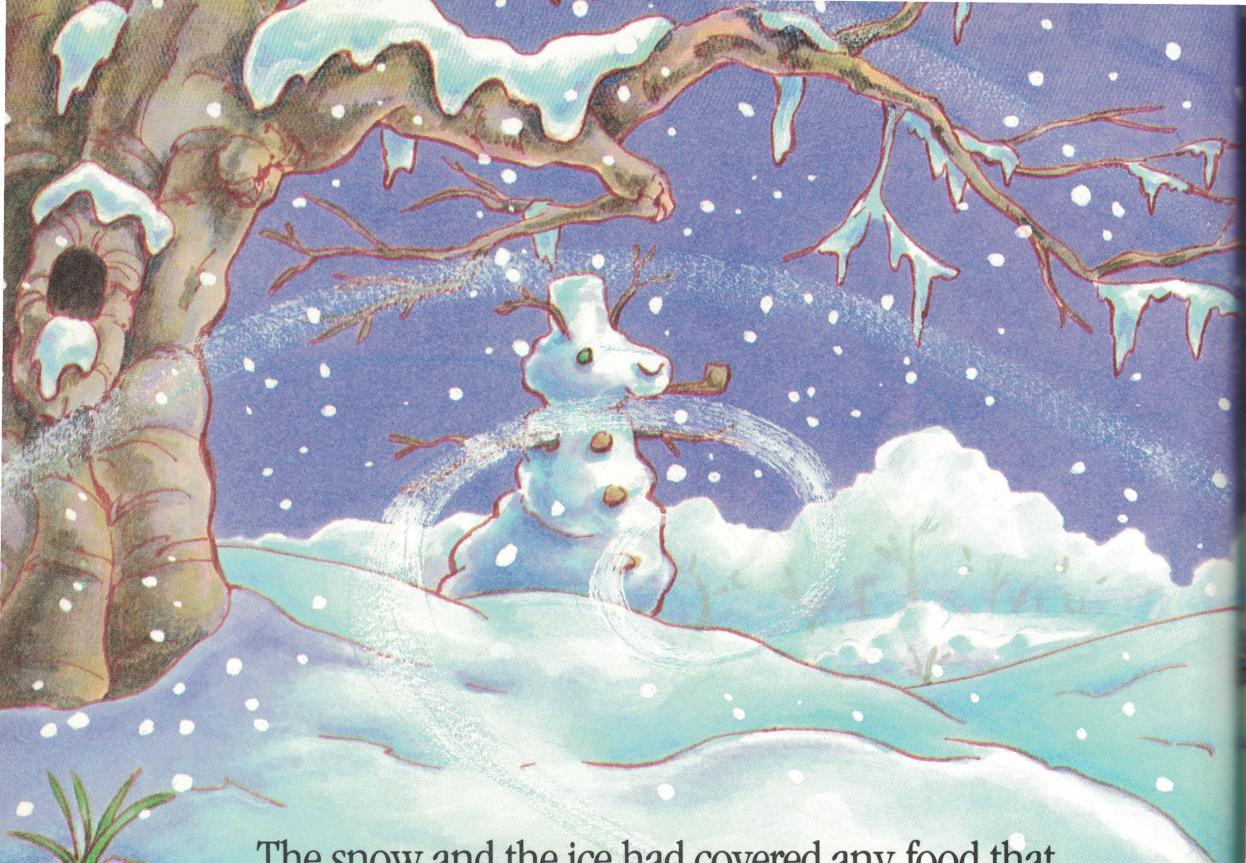
It was very, very cold!

It was very, very cold, indeed!

In fact, it was so cold, Gideon Grasshopper didn't even want to sing! And on top of all that, poor Gideon was very, very hungry.





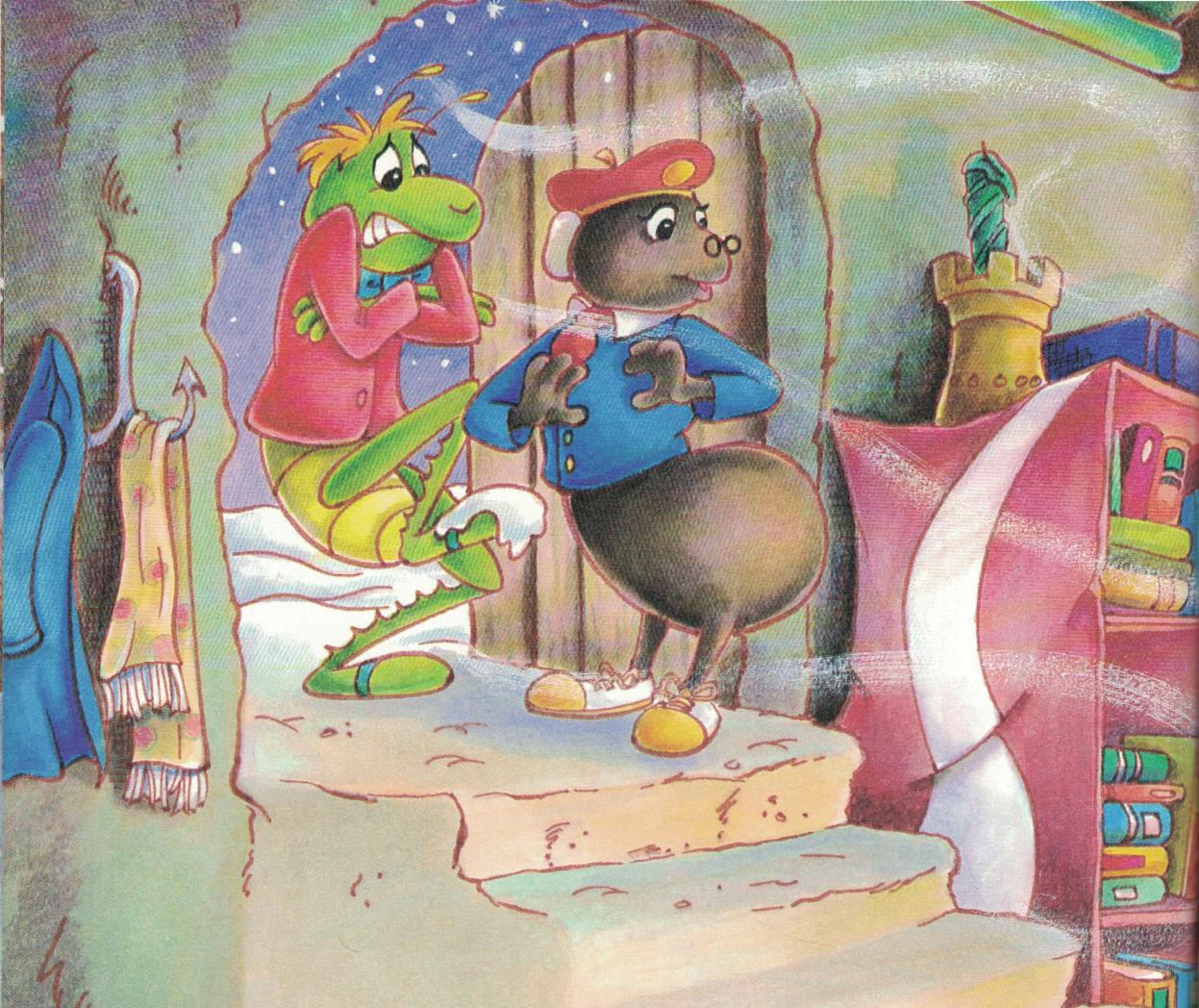


The snow and the ice had covered any food that might have been found on the ground earlier that year. Gideon didn't know what to do.

But then he remembered the ants and all the food they had been storing for the Winter. He decided it would be a very good idea to pay them a visit.

So Gideon hopped across the snowy field to the home of the ants and knocked on the door.





Gideon explained to Captain Anthony that he was
hungry...

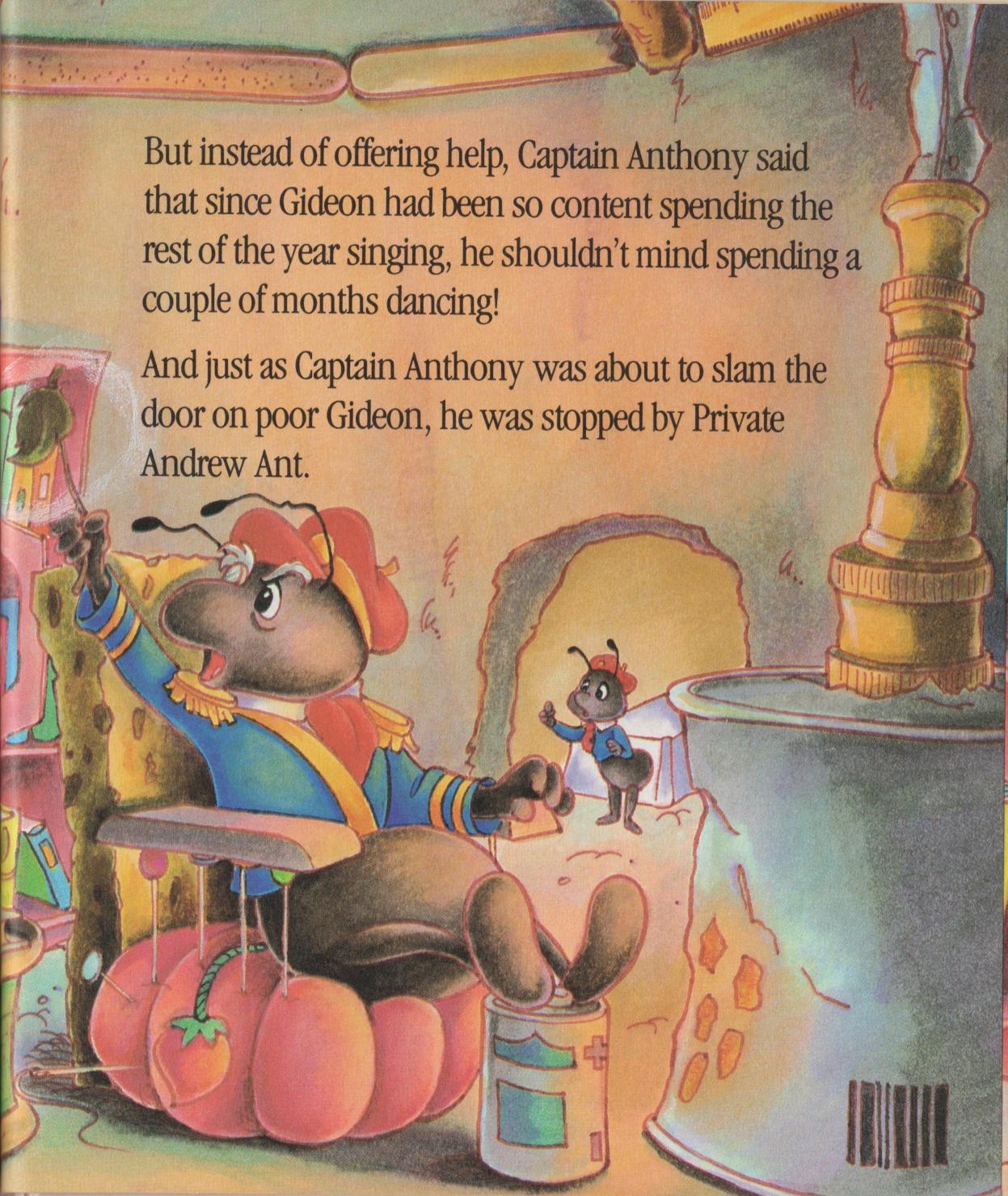
and cold...

and freezing...

...and that the only way he could stay warm was
to continually hop up and down.

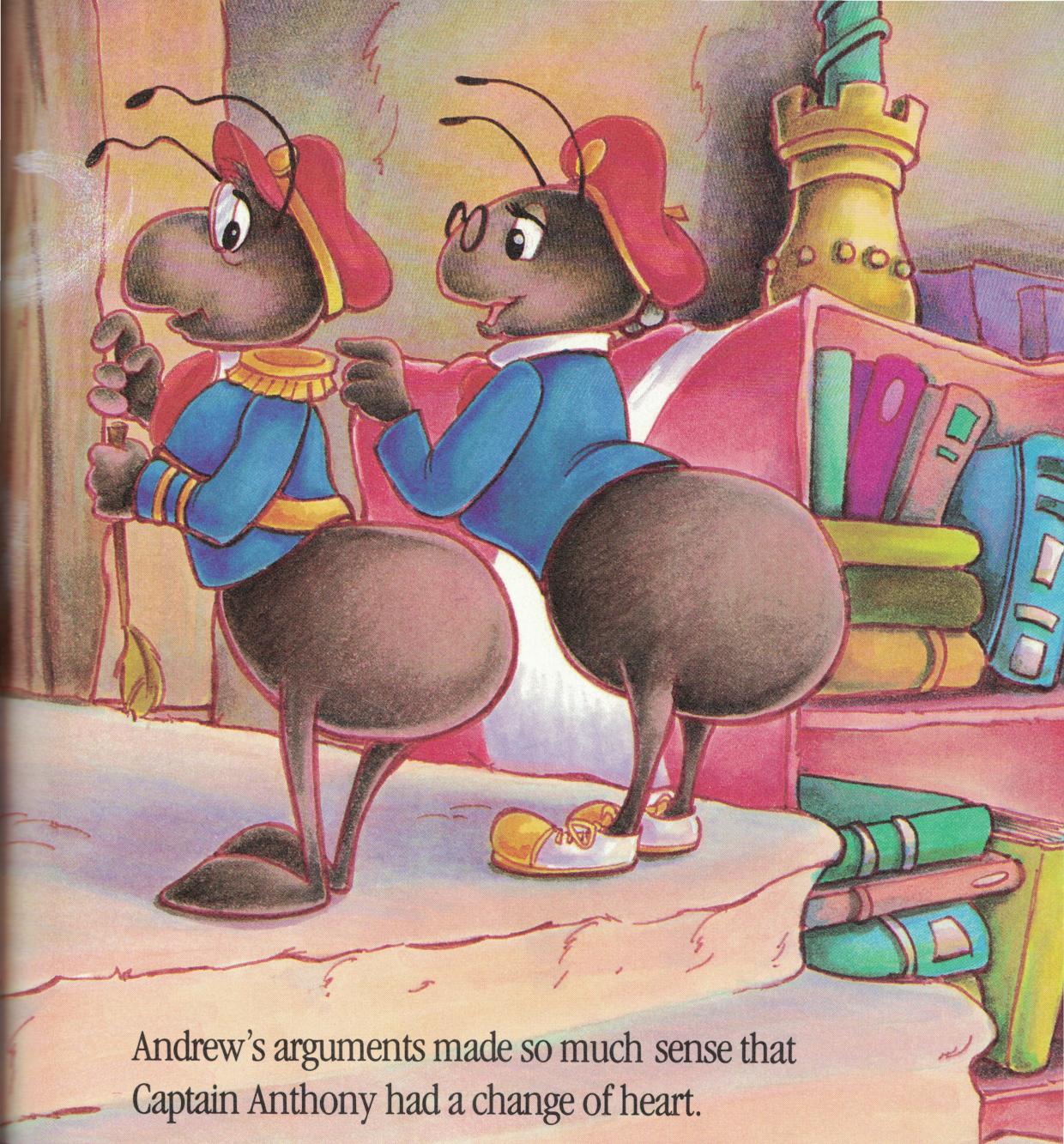


Little Andrew explained to the Captain and the rest of the ants that Gideon's songs had helped them in their work all year long.

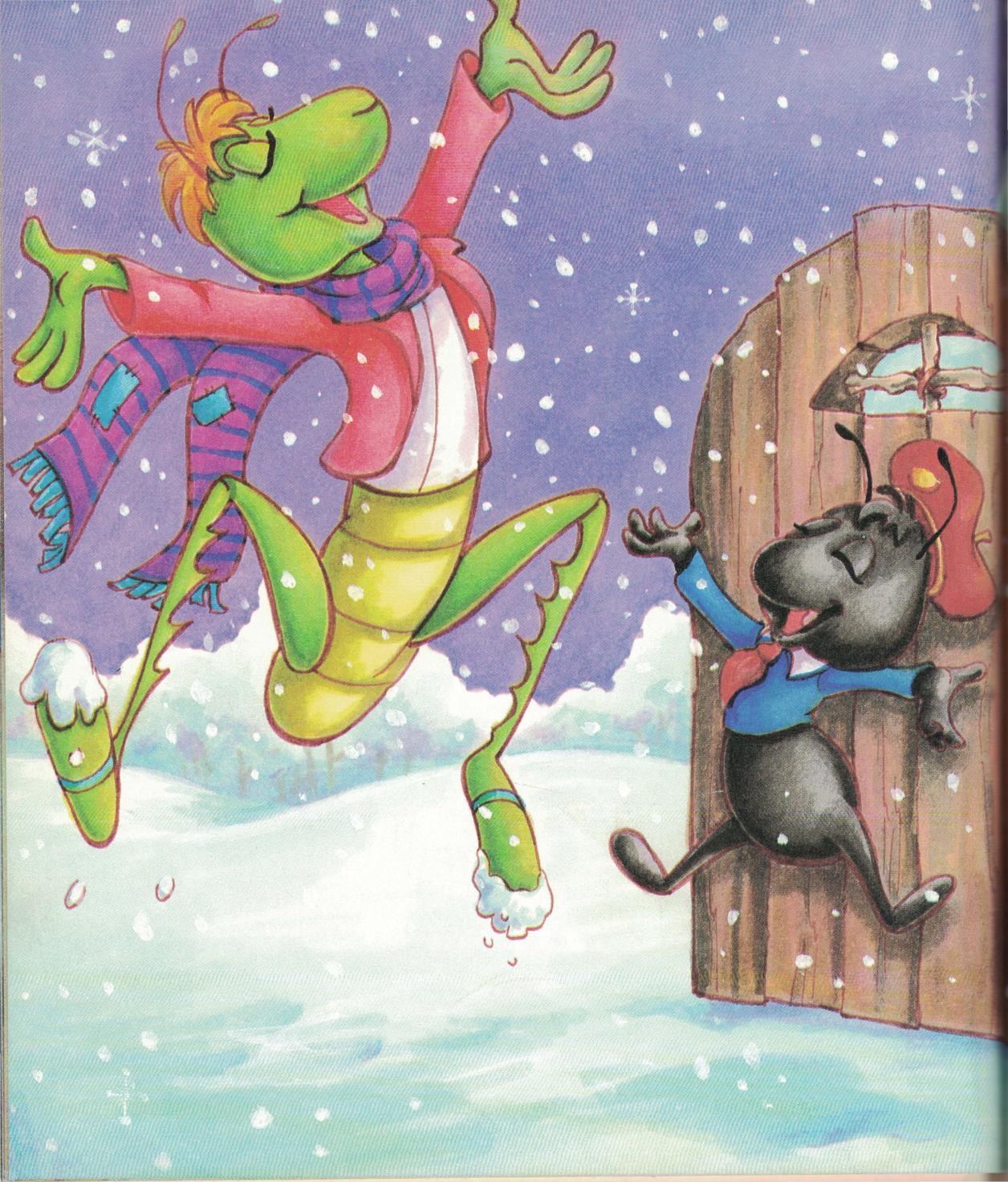


But instead of offering help, Captain Anthony said that since Gideon had been so content spending the rest of the year singing, he shouldn't mind spending a couple of months dancing!

And just as Captain Anthony was about to slam the door on poor Gideon, he was stopped by Private Andrew Ant.



Andrew's arguments made so much sense that Captain Anthony had a change of heart.



And Gideon had a change of heart, too, for now he realized that even though tomorrow may seem a long way away, it arrives sooner than you expect.

So Captain Anthony asked Gideon to stay for the Winter.



It was so cozy and warm inside, and Gideon was surrounded by such good friends that he couldn't help but burst into song once more!

Oh, I can't help singin' on a day like today.

It's the kinda day I simply gotta croon!

When you wake up 'n see

Such bea-utiful scenery,

There's just no holdin' back a tune!

It's the kinda day you wish would never end,

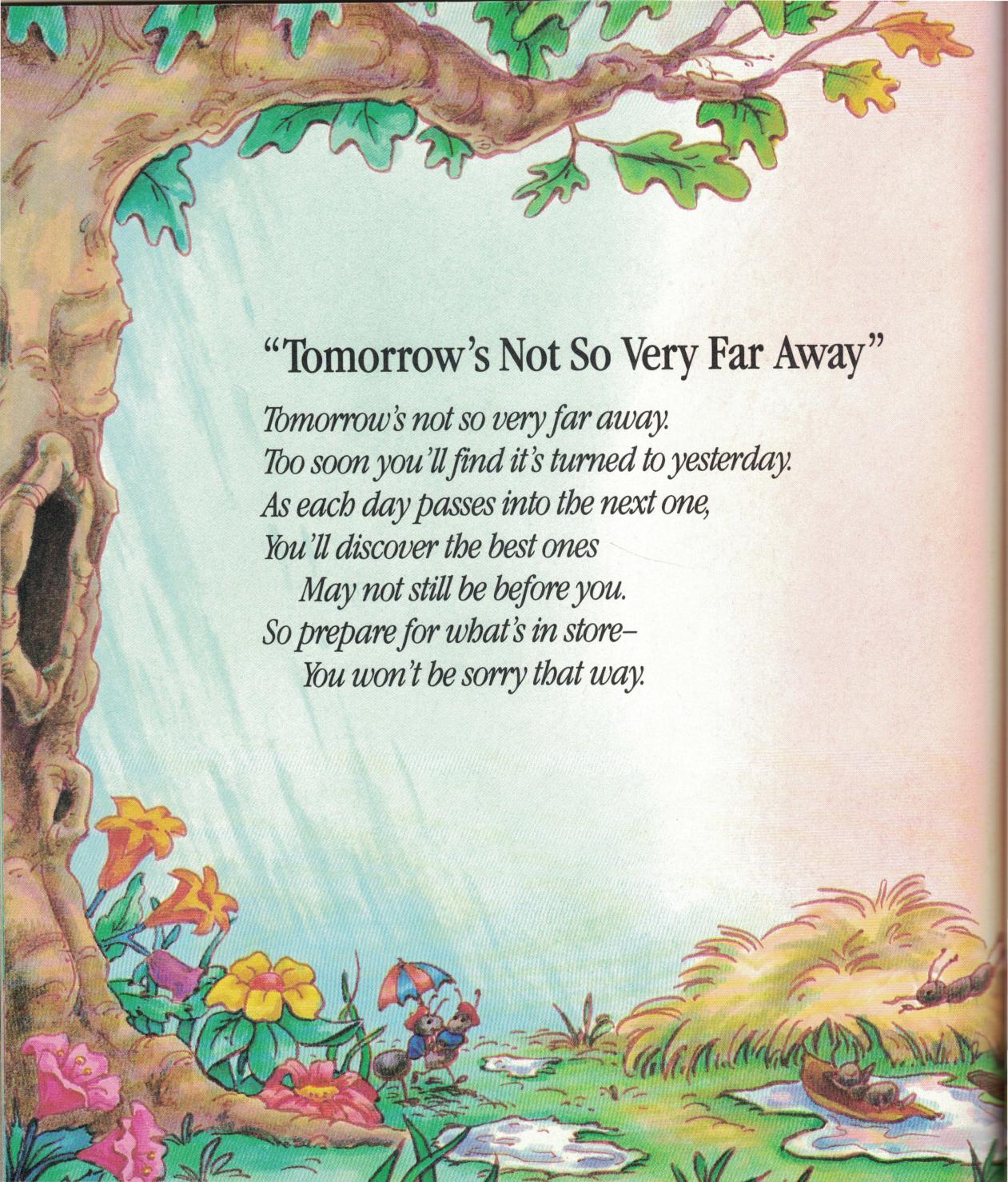
Singin' harmonies at home with all your friends.

Repeat Chorus



You know, dear, we can all learn from the story of "The Grasshopper and the Ant." I'm sure Gideon did. He learned that planning ahead and preparing for the future is a very good idea. For after all, tomorrow is not so very far away.





“Tomorrow’s Not So Very Far Away”

*Tomorrow’s not so very far away.
Too soon you’ll find it’s turned to yesterday.
As each day passes into the next one,
You’ll discover the best ones
 May not still be before you.
So prepare for what’s in store—
 You won’t be sorry that way.*



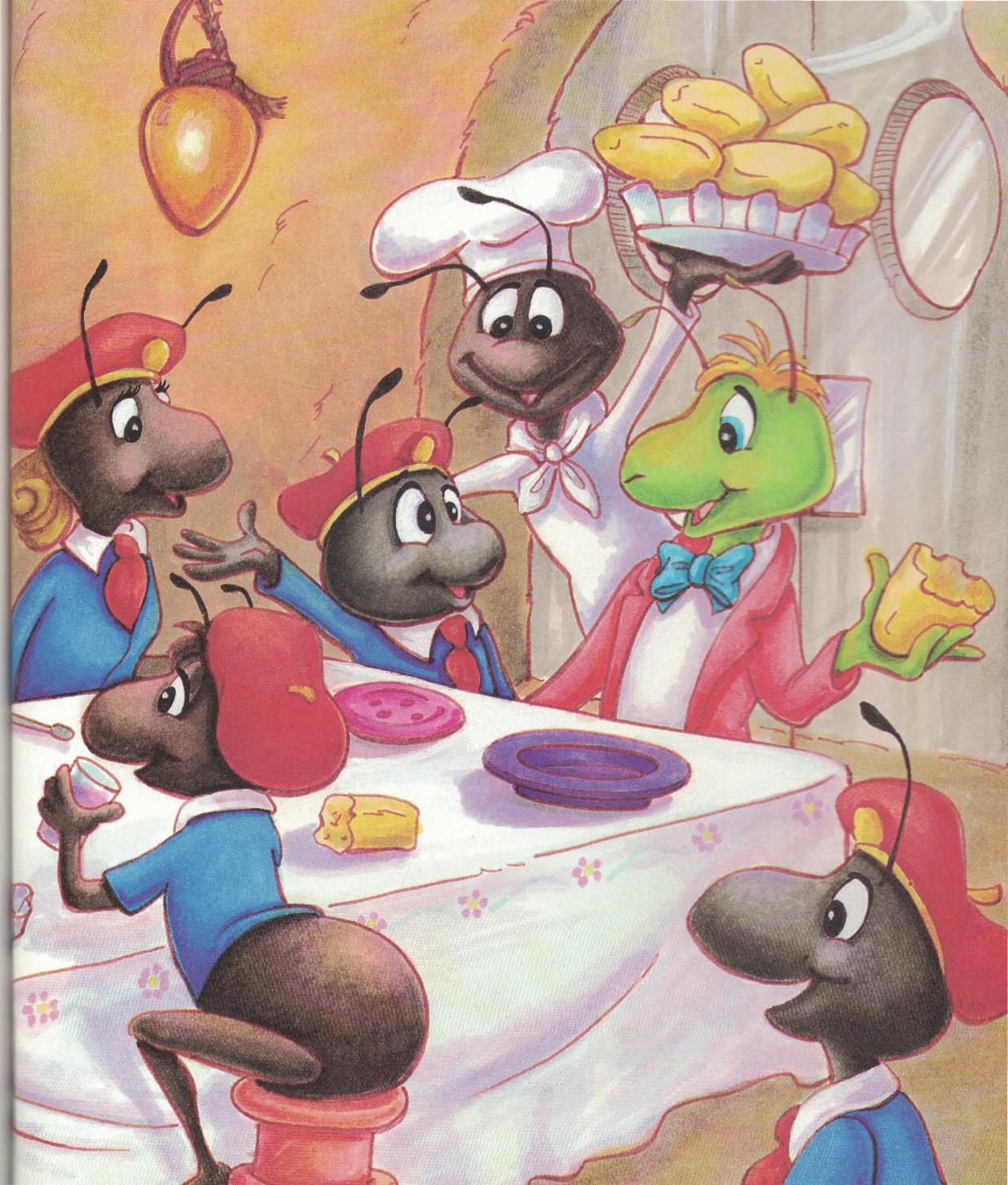
*For until we hold each moment
And make it last forever,
Tomorrow's not so very far away.*

*You may feel that all the time
In the world belongs to you.
But, sad to say, that's never, ever true.*

With all the good singing and all the good food, it was the best Winter Gideon Grasshopper, or Andrew Ant, or any of the other ants ever had. They remained good friends for many long years.



*nd they all lived
happily ever after.*







THE TALKING
MOTHER GOOSETM
Fairy Tales

The Frog Prince

The Little Red Hen

Cinderella

*Goldilocks &
the Three Bears*

Jack & the Beanstalk

The Sleeping Beauty

Beauty & the Beast

Hansel & Gretel

*The Shoemaker &
the Elves*

The Tortoise & the Hare

The Princess & the Pea

*The Emperor's
New Clothes*

Little Red Riding Hood

Rumpelstiltskin

Peter & the Wolf

*The Grasshopper &
the Ant*

Rapunzel

The Golden Touch



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